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Wednesday's Letter

Missourian Objects.

Columbia, Mo., May 10, 1903.

Editor Daily Nebraskan, Lincoln, Neb.:

Dear Sir—In your issue of Tuesday, May 5th, you accuse me of taking an unfair advantage of Nebraska, in our recent debate, by reason of my position as last speaker. Let me assure you that your reporter did not understand things correctly. In regard to the Standard Oil chart, those present will remember that I objected to it because the Standard Oil company was not strictly a manufacturing company, but also the sole owner of the pipe line, and a large producer of raw material. And the large profits are due to the power given by these things. These things are in the nature of a natural monopoly, and are not manufacturing processes, and the question was limited to manufacturing companies. This was why I said the Standard Oil company was not included, properly, in the question. I did not say Nebraska had expressly agreed to exclude the Standard Oil company, but I did say the word "manufacturing" in the question excluded the elements on which the great power of the Standard Oil company was based. You see, therefore, that in your attack on me you did not state my position correctly. You are the one who has "garbled the facts." Your statement, further on, that I said Professor Jenks did not have access to the facts gathered by the industrial commission, is not true. Here is what I did say. I said that Professor Jenks' statements quoted by Nebraska from his book were based on the facts gathered by the industrial commission in 1899 and published in the first volume of its report, and that later investigation, the results of which were given in volumes XIII and XIX, give new and additional information which modified the conceptions of combinations. In short, that Professor Jenks' statements were based on information given in the first volume of the commission's reports; and not on that given in volumes XIII and XIX. Now the facts bear out this statement. Professor Jenks' book was published early in 1900, probably being written in 1899. The first volume of the industrial commission's report was published in 1900, being submitted to congress March 1, 1900. Therefore the statements of Jenks' book were based only on this information, and not on that in volumes XIII and XIX, for volume XIII was submitted December 4, 1901, and volume XIX February 10, 1902—about a year after Professor Jenks' book was published. I said new information was gained by these new investigations. In the first volume of the commission's report only eleven combinations had been investigated. When the final report, volume XIX, was made about two hundred combinations had been investigated. Now, I think you will hardly claim that this further investigation was useless, or failed to give new light on the trust question; and this was what I claimed. Now, is this garbling facts? Now, I cited statements in an article of Professor Jenks, contained in the Quarterly Journal of Economics, which was published about a year after his book, and these statements considerably modified his position as given in his book, and they were, as I said, based on further information. This is what you call "garbling the facts." Of course I am aware that there is a later edition of Professor Jenks' book, but the changes comprise additional chapters on combinations in Europe, federal legislation, and some plans of regulation. The body of the book you will find on comparison remains unchanged.

I think when you charged me with garbling the facts and being unfair before you. It was reported badly, and now since you understand it correctly, will you do me the justice of publishing the true state of facts? Being misinformed was, I think, the cause of your unwarranted attack on me. In several years of debating experience I have never once been accused of unfairness, and if your paper circulated only where I am known, I should take no notice of the attack on me. But the fact that your Nebraskan goes where I am not known, and since the attack reflects on my university, I deem

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it proper to place myself in the right light, feeling sure you will do the square thing when you understand my position. If you would, I should like for you to publish this explanation and try to do me justice. If you will do this, and send me a copy of your paper in which you do so, you will do me a favor which I shall greatly appreciate. Very truly yours, E. F. NELSON.

The professional schools of the University of Chicago are being rapidly organized. At present there are four giving instruction in preparation for the work of the minister, the physician, the lawyer, and the teacher. The school of education is about to occupy magnificent quarters in a specially constructed building fronting on the Midway Plaisance. Ground has been broken for the special building for the law school which will be ready for occupancy on January first. The courses in medicine are given in connection with the work of Rush Medical College. Special circulars will be sent on application to the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

Just a Hoax.

Once a lad for just a hoax
Determined he would play some joax,
Plainly unwise.
So learned to swear, then he smoox,
Without the knowledge of his foax,
And tells some lies.
And 'mongst the boys began his croax
Until by boasting, them provoax
With quick surprise
To land on him with sudden poax,
And also stop his wind with choax,
And black his eyes.
At last the youth began to coax,
Then all the fellows he invoax
With pleading cries;
'Til he falls into hysterix
Which winds him up in such a fix
He swoons and dies.

B. A.

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